

MODIFIED CLAIMS

[Original Claims 1-15 received at the International Office on 16 January 2004 (16.01.04) were replaced by modified Claims 1-10]

Patent Claims

1. Guide device in particular for the positioning of catheters in a body duct with a long first thread (2), at least one long second thread (3), which runs close to the first thread (2) and a device (8) connected to the threads (2, 3) with which the possibility to permit relative movement between the wire threads (2, 3) or at least to make it more difficult can be controlled purposefully, **characterized by the fact that** the first thread (2) and the second thread (3) are made of wire and the control device (8) is finished in such a way that magnetic fields (4) of different polarities (5) can be generated along the first wire thread (2) and along the second wire thread (3) to bring about a mutual attraction of the wire threads (2, 3) at will.
2. Guide device in accordance with Claim 1, **characterized by the fact that** the first thread (2) and/or the second thread (3) is manufactured from a magnetizable material, especially a weakly magnetizable material or that the first thread (2) and/or the second thread (3) is manufactured from a non-magnetizable material and is provided with a magnetizable coating (7).
3. Guide device in accordance with Claim 1 or 2, **characterized by the fact that** the first thread (2) and/or the second thread (3) is shaped as a solid body or as a hollow body, whereby in the case that both threads (2, 3) are shaped as hollow bodies, the control device (8) preferably exhibits a magnetizable fluid found in each wire thread (2, 3).

4. Guide device in accordance with one of the Claims 1 through 3, **characterized by the fact that** the magnetic fields (4) can be generated through the application of electric voltage to the threads (2, 3) made of wire.
5. Guide device in accordance with one of the previous Claims, **characterized by the fact that** the threads (2, 3) made of wire are arranged beside each other and parallel to each other, preferably twisted around each other, or that the wire threads (2, 3) are arranged concentric to each other, whereby preferably one of the threads (2, 3) is arranged centrally on the inside and the other of the threads (3, 2) is arranged spirally, radially to the outside around the first wire thread.
6. Guide device in accordance with Claim 5, **characterized by the fact that** the first thread (2) is arranged centrally on the inside and several second threads (3) are arranged around the outer circumference of the first thread (2), preferably uniformly spaced from each other.
7. Guide device in accordance with one of the previous Claims, **characterized by the fact that** the threads (2, 3) are finished in such a way that they lie flat against each other with the generation of a magnetic field to bring about mutual attraction.
8. Guide device in accordance with one of the previous Claims, **characterized by the fact that** the magnetic fields (4) can be generated permanently magnetically, whereby preferably each thread (2, 3) made of wire is polarized along its length and alternately oppositely in the radial direction.
9. Guide device in accordance with one of the previous Claims, **characterized by the fact that** the control device (8) enables mutual contact or attachment to each other of the basic surfaces (6, 10) of the threads (2, 3) facing each other, preferably in the form of teeth (15) and enables the separation of the basic surfaces (6, 10) from each other through the introduction of a fluid under

pressure, preferably a liquid or a gas in the gap (16) between the threads (2, 3).

10. Guide wire in accordance with Claim 9, **characterized by the fact that** the mutual contact or attachment of the basic surfaces (6, 10) of the threads (2, 3) facing each other can be brought about through the removal of the fluid, preferably with the additional application of a vacuum.

Statement under Art. 19 (1) PCT

The new claim 1 has been delimited against US 5 337 733. The features of new claim 1 are disclosed in original claims 1 and 6, the features of new claims 2 to 10 are disclosed in original claims 7 to 15.

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